June 24, 2021

EMMONS BAYOU UNDER ADVISORY AFTER RAW SEWAGE RELEASE City of Callaway reports approximately 25,000-gallons raw sewage release

Florida HEALTH Bay County

Contact:

Joe Scully 850-481-4806 joseph.scully@flhealth.gov

Panama City, Fla. –The City of Callaway is reporting a release of approximately 25,000 gallons of raw sewage. This is from a manhole that overflowed due to rainfall in the 6400 block of Wallace Road. The release entered a storm water drain that empties into Emmons Bayou. Cleanup actions have been completed

Sewage contamination of water can expose swimmers to **intestinal viruses**, **bacteria**, and **parasites**. Swimming in the water may cause **symptoms like food poisoning** with vomiting and diarrhea. **Infection is possible** in **open cuts and wounds** that come in contact with the water.

The Florida Department of Health in Bay County, DOH-Bay, advises against swimming in Emmons Bayou from Wallace Road to the Yacht Club Drive. The City of Callaway will test the water and share results with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Bay County Health Department. Once levels are safe, the advisory will be lifted.

For more information, contact the DOH-Bay's Environmental Health office at 850-481-4806 or visit Bay. Florida Health.gov.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

Follow us on Twitter at MelethyFla and on Facebook. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit www.FloridaHealth.gov.